

IN THE CLAIMS

Amend the claims as follows.

65. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising at least one purified recombinant HCV envelope protein selected from the group consisting of an E1 protein and an E2 protein, said E1 protein and E2 protein having been purified to at least 80% pure; and at least one of a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, adjuvant or vehicle.

66. (Previously Amended) An isolated HCV E1 or E2 peptide selected from the group consisting of

SEQ ID NO:56,

SEQ ID NO:57,

SEQ ID NO:58,

SEQ ID NO:59,

SEQ ID NO:53,

SEQ ID NO:66,

SEQ ID NO:67,

SEQ ID NO:68,

SEQ ID NO:72,

SEQ ID NO:73,

SEQ ID NO:86,

SEQ ID NO:87,

SEQ ID NO:88,

SEQ ID NO:83, and

SEQ ID NO:82.

67. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising an E1/E2 complex formed from purified recombinant HCV single or specific oligomeric recombinant E1 or E2 proteins, said E1 protein having been purified to at least 80% pure, and said E2 protein having been purified to at least 80% pure; and at least one of a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, adjuvant or vehicle.

68. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising at least one purified recombinant HCV single or specific oligomeric recombinant envelope protein selected from the group consisting of an E1 protein and an E2 protein, said E1 protein and E2 protein having been purified to at least 80% pure; and at least one of a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, adjuvant or vehicle.

69. (Currently Amended) A therapeutic HCV composition for inducing an HCV-specific immune response comprising a therapeutic effective amount of a composition comprising at least one purified recombinant HCV envelope protein selected from the group consisting of an E1 protein and an E2 protein, said E1 protein and E2 protein having been purified to at least 80% pure; and at least one of a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, adjuvant or vehicle.

70. (Currently Amended) A therapeutic HCV composition for inducing an HCV-specific immune response comprising a therapeutic effective amount of a composition

comprising at least one of the E1 and E2 peptides according to claim 66; and at least one of a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, adjuvant or vehicle.

71. (Currently Amended) A therapeutic HCV composition for inducing an HCV-specific immune response comprising a therapeutic effective amount of a composition comprising an E1/E2 complex formed from purified recombinant HCV single or specific oligomeric recombinant E1 or E2 proteins, said E1 protein having been purified to at least 80% pure, and said E2 protein having been purified to at least 80% pure; and at least one of a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, adjuvant or vehicle.

72. (Currently Amended) A therapeutic HCV composition for inducing an HCV-specific immune response comprising a therapeutic effective amount of a composition comprising at least one purified recombinant HCV single or specific oligomeric recombinant envelope protein selected from the group consisting of an E1 protein and an E2 protein, said E1 protein and E2 protein having been purified to at least 80% pure; and at least one of a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, adjuvant or vehicle.

73. (Previously Added) A composition according to any of claims 65, 67-69, 71 or 72 wherein said recombinant HCV envelope proteins are produced by recombinant mammalian cells.

74. (Previously Added) A composition according to any of claims 65, 67-69, 71 or 72 wherein said recombinant HCV envelope proteins are produced by recombinant yeast cells.

75. (Previously Amended) A method of treating a mammal infected with HCV comprising administering to said mammal an effective amount of a composition according to any one of claims 65, 67-72 and 77.

76. (Previously Added) The method of claim 75 wherein said mammal is a human.

77. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising at least one of a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, adjuvant or vehicle, and at least one of the peptides of claim 66.